



# Brownfields 2008 Grant Fact Sheet

## Prairie du Chien, WI

### EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### Community Description

The City of Prairie du Chien was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Located along the Mississippi River on Wisconsin's western border, Prairie du Chien (population 5,735) is the second oldest settlement in Wisconsin. The city's riverside location and railroad access attracted industries such as a woolen mill and canneries. These industries and population growth eventually stagnated. Over the past 30 years, many factories and industrial operations closed, and hundreds of jobs were lost. The city's per capita income is 20 percent below the national average. The city is targeting sites in its historic riverfront and downtown areas, including St. Feriole Island, for brownfields assessment. These areas contain underused and abandoned properties in blighted and potentially contaminated condition. Brownfields



### Assessment Grant

**\$200,000 for hazardous substances**

EPA has selected the City of Prairie du Chien for a brownfields assessment grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to conduct 10 to 14 Phase I and four to eight Phase II environmental site assessments and to support community involvement activities.

### Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team

312-886-7576

<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields>

Grant Recipient: City of Prairie du Chien, WI  
608-326-8534

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

assessments are expected to help the city leverage funding for the cleanup of contaminated sites and catalyze redevelopment.